



# The EMU Newsletter

PROCLAIMING THE TRIUMPHS OF THE GOSPEL

Volume LIX

November 2016

Number 10



*Ken & Joan Jensen  
Director*

## ALONG THE WAY . . .

There is something I have been wanting to mention in the EMU Newsletter for some months but keep forgetting to do so. Many of you who knew my father during his ministry years remember his message on **David Livingston's Prayer**. Thanks to a friend who sent us a DVD (probably originally recorded on a VHS tape) of **George Jensen** delivering this sermon in a church and to Jeff Davis for posting the message on the EMU International website, you can view the David Livingston's Prayer challenge by going to [www.emuinternational.org](http://www.emuinternational.org) and then clicking on the History tab at the top of the screen. On this page is a short article about Fred and Seva Dabold with their photo, followed by a brief testimony of my parents with their picture. Just below the Jensens' text is a video screen showing Dad at a pulpit. Click the start button in the center of the video box to watch the message. The quality of the video is less than professional, but the message comes through fine. Let me know if you enjoy it! Incidentally, my parents are doing rather well at present. With added physical and mental stimulation, Dad has been much more engaged, happy, and his memory has improved. We are so thankful that Mom and Dad are not in need of assisted living and continue to have a loving, caring relationship.

JD Crowley had a profitable sojourn in the States in October. Besides speaking  
*(continued on page 2)*

## A JOINT EFFORT

*by Rick Jensen, maintenance staff, The Wilds of North Carolina*

For this year's work trip to Camp Emanuel in Uruguay, SA, we had a much smaller group than last year - only four of us. It was also different in that my brother Ken did not join us. The group consisted of **Pat DalPorto** (3<sup>rd</sup> trip), **Titus Hopper** (3<sup>rd</sup>), **Jason Clark** (1<sup>st</sup>) and **Rick Jensen** (12<sup>th</sup>). We also had nine different Uruguayan national men join us in the many work tasks. Some were at camp part of the time, while a few worked with us the whole time (**Pedro Donzé**, **Luis Rios**, **Carlos Olivera**, **Juan Gonzalez**, **Gaby Gomez**, **Nico Gomez**, **Hector Gomez**, **Martin**, & **Carlos Alberti**). There were also four ladies who did an excellent job cooking our meals (**Valeria Gomez**, **Patty Donzé**, **Mabel Olivera**, & **Beatriz Alberti**). Two other men were scheduled to join us, but, because of their work, they had to cancel. One of these men did come to Camp Emmanuel the week before and helped a lot by cutting some of the wood for the bunkbeds.

Because of airplane mechanical delays last year, we allowed more layover time this year. This worked fine, except our last flight had about a two-hour delay, putting us in the Miami airport for over six hours. At least we knew that our luggage would make it to Uruguay with us this year. As usual, I was concerned about getting everything through customs. We were taking in over 50 pounds of screws, 20 pounds of copper sulfate (for root control in the septic fields), a palm sander, a hammer drill, batteries, and a lot of smaller tools. Fortunately, I was the one stopped in customs. The customs official wanted to see what large metal things were in some of the bags and asked what we were bringing into the country. He didn't know much English, and I know even less Spanish, but I was able to explain to him what was in the bags and for what and where they were being used. After opening one of the fifty-pound containers and seeing the screws, he didn't need to see anything else and waived us on. PTL!

Upon arrival at Camp Emmanuel, Pedro Donzé gave us an overview of the work that he wanted us to accomplish. The list was

quite long, and some of us were wondering if it was possible to complete all the projects. Pedro had the jobs broken down into segments with little check-off boxes. He had also assigned workers' names to each project box. A condensed list follows: build 24 bunkbeds with ladders and railing; stain the bunkbeds; paint the inside of some of the girls' cabins; cut down trees and clear brush; install lights in a parking lot; add more lights in the workshop; build some receptacles in the cabins; weld metal on a stove and a few doors; repair and replace the distribution boxes in three of the septic fields; and clean out one of the septic lines that had a bad root infestation.

The Lord blessed us in the weather situation. The little rain that we received came mostly at the end of the day or overnight. There was a large hurricane-strength storm off the coast of Uruguay for a few days. We had a lot of wind at camp for over a day, but only a few shower-bands came through during our working hours. The high winds did a lot of damage to the coastline but only blew over one tree at camp. The hardest rains came the last few hours of our stay at camp before coming home to the States.

Pat took care of most of the electrical projects and helped with the wood working projects. Titus and Jason usually worked together digging up the septic distribution boxes, mixing concrete, and pouring the

*(continued on page 2)*



*(l-r) Martin, Valeria, Nico, Patty, Pedro, Maxi, Beatriz, & Carlos A.*

**ALONG THE WAY...***(continued from page 1)*

at the FX Frontline conference in Minneapolis, MN, he spent time with **Anna** and her family in Chicago, and **Charis** and family, **Taylor**, and **Jenna** in Greenville, SC. While in Greenville, JD came to the office for several hours to talk to **Jeff Davis** and **me**. It was a good time of fellowship. Pray for JD as he continues to write and publish books that will be beneficial to all Khmer language speakers. The Lord has given JD a unique and vital ministry through writing and teaching.

**Joshua Jensen** and missionary friend, **Andrew Carson**, have been working on writing an alphabet for the Kachok tribal language. They were finally able to present the project to a group of 15 Kachok speakers who are mostly literate in the Khmer language. Some minor changes were suggested, but basically the alphabet was accepted. The new alphabet, based on the Khmer character set will now need government approval. Joshua and Andrew became aware of a possible problem caused by a Christian leader from Vietnam who travels to Cambodia to preach to the Jarai and Kachok (similar language groups). He is spreading the word that accepting the new alphabet based on Sanskrit rather than the Vietnamese Jarai script (based on Latin letters) will destroy the Jarai and Kachok languages. Josh and Andrew are hoping to have a meeting with this gentleman to discuss their differences.



*The 4 Farmer boys in Cambodia*

In case you haven't heard, **Jeremy and Bonnie Ruth Farmer** now have eight children. **Elisha Chesterton** made his grand appearance on October 28. He weighed 8 lbs and was 21.5 inches long (tall). Mom and Elisha are doing well. And, once again, it is great to have **Brooke Illsley** there to help with the children.

Concerning the Far East, **Joan and I** will be flying to that part of the world beginning November 21. We plan to first stop off in Beijing for a day and leave items for the **Steve & Charity** and store our winter clothes for a couple of weeks. The next day we fly south to Siem Reap, Cambodia, to begin a 2-week visit with our five missionary families, who are now spread out in four towns. Should be interesting. Then we

return to Beijing, China, for a week with **Steve & Charity's** family. It will be good to learn about their new locations and ministries. We leave China on December 14. Two days after returning home we plan - for now - to attend the wedding of a dear friend in Indiana that Saturday. (Sounds like a lot more traveling when I write it down!)

Earlier in the fall we learned that **Josh and Amy Jensen** will be flying their family to the States for the wedding of Amy's "baby" sister in York, PA. They will be leaving on the same day Joan and I leave Beijing. They will also be attending the wedding in Indiana that we will be attending. The bride was Amy's maid-of-honor. They will then drive to our house, arriving on Monday the 19th and be with us until Christmas Eve when they fly to York. On January 6, the Josh Jensen family of six fly out of Washington, DC, back to Cambodia - weather permitting!

**John Mark and Deborah Steel** and their two children arrived in Greenville, SC, from Montevideo, Uruguay, on October 20 for a short furlough during which JM took another class towards his doctorate at BJU. They are also visiting Deborah's father and step-mother in Florida for a few days. We will be having lunch with them on Thursday, November 10. They head back to Montevideo on December 8.

**Michael and Liz Cole** need a newer, reliable vehicle that is built for at least six passengers. They are also looking for a different house to rent. Their current abode has a moisture (humidity) problem that even dehumidifiers cannot solve. Michael and at least a couple of the children are allergic to the mold caused by the humidity in the house. And the feeling of having a constant cold is getting rather discouraging.

**Jeff Davis** is currently on a major trip to India where he will be preaching and teaching at the first 360 Conference in Hyderabad, the hometown of missionary **Billy J.** (When I write this name I feel like I should always remind the readers that Billy is 100% Indian.) Jeff left on Saturday, November 5, and arrives home on Sunday, November 20, the day before we leave for China/Cambodia. The December EMU Newsletter will have a report about Jeff's adventures in India. The Davises still have their house on the market for sale in Anderson, SC. Pray that the house will sell soon - unless God has a better plan.



*Jeff on his way to India*

**Ted** was scheduled to fly with Jeff to India and, also, participate in the 360 Conference. However, Ted underwent a scheduled heart ablation operation in the 3rd week of October. Instead of the four ablations that the surgeon expected to do, there were nine. Because of the high number of heart ablations, the doctor, without knowing about Ted's planned trip to India, told Ted that he could not travel outside of the USA for at least three months. He said that stress and heat are the worst conditions after a heart ablation, and the work of the surgery could be negated by these two conditions. India just happens to yield a lot of stress and heat. So, Ted cancelled his India trip. Billy was able to have other men cover Ted's speaking slots, so all has worked out fine.

My brother **Rick's trip to Camp Emmanuel in Uruguay** with three other Americans was another substantial travel event for EMU. You can read Rick's article in this newsletter. I do want to thank those of you who responded to last month's article about the material needs for the projects of Rick's Team at Camp Emmanuel. We (camp director Pedro Donzé and I) were amazed at the generosity of those who gave, and the needs were wonderfully met.

In closing I want to thank you for "electing" to read the newsletter. (Makes me feel like a winner!) We appreciate your continued interest in EMU International. And we trust that your Thanksgiving Day will be God focused and God honoring. We certainly do have so much for which to be thankful. ☩

**A Joint Effort***(continued from page 1)*

new pads for the distribution boxes. These two also did most of the tree cutting. Most of my time was spent boring holes for the mortise-and-tenon joints on the bunk beds, cutting wood for the ladders and rails, making jigs for the router work, and hooking up the distribution boxes. The Uruguayans were busy assembling and painting the beds, painting cabins, and welding.

It was a great blessing to work alongside these people who love the Lord and the ministry at Camp Emanuel. They were a blessing and encouragement to us as, I hope, we were to them. The last evening after supper, Pat asked to hear everyone's testimonies. It was a blessing to hear how the Lord had worked in each of their lives. I believe all but one of the Uruguayans had been saved at camp or after returning home from camp. They had been in church and heard the Gospel, but it was at camp that their salvation decision was made. Thanks to those of you who prayed  
*(continued on page 3)*

# The End of an Era

by Ken Jensen

On Wednesday, October 26, a few minutes before 11:00 AM, an era came to a close for EMU International. It ended with the death and Homegoing of Pastor David Yearick. There have been wonderful tributes to this faithful man of God since that day, and his funeral was laced with anecdotes and history of his 90 years here on earth. I will not attempt to recite those points, interesting as they are. But, rather, I want to share what Pastor Yearick meant to our family and EMU International.

When my father, George Jensen, first entered the ministry of Evangelical Mission to Uruguay (EMU) in 1968, Pastor Yearick gave Dad his first service as a missionary. Hampton Avenue Baptist Church of Greenville, SC, also took on the support of EMU at that time and has continued faithful in their giving over these many years.

Two years later, my parents moved their family to Greenville, SC, where we joined Hampton Avenue Baptist Church, which still met on Hampton Avenue. However, the church soon moved to new facilities that included a sanctuary and classrooms for a Christian school on State Park Road. (All three of our children attended this school from K-5 through 12th grade.) The name of our church combined road names to become Hampton Park Baptist Church. We were there for the continued growth of the church and facilities under Pastor Yearick's leadership, including the gymnasium, which served as a sanctuary until what is now the Main Auditorium was completed.

In my younger years, Pastor Yearick and I did not always see things eye-to-eye, and in my youthful arrogance I sometimes let my attitude show. I won't go into detail, but he graciously dealt with me in a way that



*Pastor Yearick preaching at Gethsemani Church in Montevideo, Uruguay, with Chicha Rodriguez translating (Oct. 2004)*

humbled me and taught me much about spiritual leadership. In difficult situations in the mission, I often find myself thinking, "What would Pastor Yearick do?" Not only do Joan and I love Pastor and Mrs. Yearick very much, but our children grew up loving them, too.

When I became a missionary with EMU in January 1976, Pastor Yearick had already been on the EMU board of directors for one year. It was during the next 40 years that I really got to know my pastor better - as a friend and mentor. He was not just a member of the board, but an active member. He and Bobbie made their first trip to an EMU field in February 1994 to speak at Camp Emmanuel in Uruguay. They would grace the camp with their ministry again in October 2004 when Bobbie Yearick was the guest speaker at the Ladies' Spring Retreat at Camp Emmanuel. Pastor Yearick spoke in some of our national churches. I was at the camp during their first trip to Uruguay, but not their second.

Marco Nuñez requested Pastor Yearick to

preach at the commissioning service of **Ciro Alvarado**, the first church planter to be sent out from Marco's church in Cancun, Mexico, in January 2003. The Yearicks were back in Cancun in August 2008 for the commissioning service for another of Marco's church planters. I was able to be with the Yearicks on both of these trips, too. We had some wonderful and hilarious times together!

Though David Yearick retired from the position of senior pastor of Hampton Park Baptist Church in 2002, he has been the pastor of nine of our EMU missionary families. (HPBC is the sending church for half of our non-Uruguayan missionaries.)

Pastor Yearick has the distinction of being the only EMU board member who has passed away while still being an active member of the board. Only Bob Harrison and George Jensen served on the Board of Directors longer than Pastor Yearick. And David Yearick is the last of "the old guard" (my father's generation) serving on the board. He is and will be greatly missed as EMU enters a new era. ✝



*David & Bobbie Yearick with Marco and the Alvarado family in Cancun, Mexico, for **Ciro's** (far left) commissioning (Jan. 2003)*

## A Joint Effort

(continued from page 2)

for our trip and gave toward the supplies that we took down. The Lord blessed again with this trip and almost every box was checked before we left. And it was all done safely! PTL! ✝



*Above: Rick using the new table saw*



*Left: Pat DalPorto working on an electrical project*



*Nico brought some big eggs for big men's breakfast*



*Luis Rios & Juan Gonzalez*



*Pastors Hector & Gaby Gomez*



*Left: Lumberjacks Jason and Titus*

*Right: Jason shared his testimony at Bethel Church with Sara Alberti translating*





## A Thanksgiving Christmas

by Ken Jensen



It is not usual to begin the **Christmas Fund Offering** article by giving an overview of **Thanksgiving Day**. But it seems appropriate this year. Traditionally, the first Thanksgiving in North America was held by the surviving Pilgrims of Plymouth, Massachusetts, in 1621. The feast was in celebration of a good corn harvest. Because of privations since arriving in North America in 1620, their population had decreased from 100 to 50. Yet the summer of 1621 was such that thanksgiving was in their hearts. The banquet that was held that fall included the 50 Pilgrims and 90 members of the Wampanoag tribe, who had become their friends and mentors of life in this new prosperous but brutal land. Contemporary Edward Winslow recorded that the **thanksgiving** was to God for His goodness and bounty.

The next major reference to **Thanksgiving Day** is when President George Washington proclaimed on October 3, 1789, in part: "Whereas it is the duty of all Nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor, and whereas both Houses of Congress have by their joint Committee requested me 'to recommend to the People of the United States a day of public **thanksgiving** and prayer to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many signal favors of Almighty God especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness.'" The rest of his declaration is equally inspiring and in great contrast to our present American society.

There were many regional, state, and church calls for thanksgiving in our early Colonial and Union years. But the next proclamation that caught my eye was that of President Abraham Lincoln. The Battle of Gettysburg had been fought on July 1-3, 1863, resulting in about 50,000 casualties. On November 19, Lincoln visited the battlefield and delivered

his Gettysburg Address. However, before then, on October 3, the President signed a proclamation of **Thanksgiving** throughout all the States. This is fascinating in that the Civil War was still raging. What was there to give thanks for? He begins by declaring: "The year that is drawing towards its close, has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added, which are of so extraordinary a nature, that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften even the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever-watchful providence of Almighty God." The next paragraph states in full: "No human counsel hath devised nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, who, while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy." Throughout this horrible conflict, the Lord abundantly supplies every need for the army that would succeed in melding the states of the United States of America together again.

The last reference to **Thanksgiving** I will mention is a declaration by Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1939, influenced by Fred Lazarus, Jr., the founder of what became the Macy's department stores. The tradition was to celebrate **Thanksgiving** on the last Thursday of November. It was not considered appropriate to promote **Christmas** sales until **Thanksgiving Day** when the Macy's Parade took place. Fred Lazarus, Jr., president of Federated Department Stores, convinced FDR to change **Thanksgiving** to the second to the last Thursday of November making for a longer shopping period before **Christmas**, and hoping to mitigate The Great Depression which was still on going. On December 26, 1941, the official day for **Thanksgiving** was set to the 4th Thursday of November.

It is interesting that almost all **Thanksgiving Day** proclamations prior to 1939 were to give

thanks to God for His bounty. With FDR and Lazarus, **Thanksgiving** became economic and commercial. Not only was **Thanksgiving** overshadowed by parades and shopping, but Santa Clause became the face of **Christmas**.

Like merchants promoting **Christmas** in November, we announce the **Christmas Fund Offering** in November (or earlier) every year. Unlike merchants, our goal is not to sell you something, or distract from the true meaning of **Christmas** OR **Thanksgiving**. As the Lord prospers us – materially or otherwise – we have gratitude in our hearts to Him. And that gratitude is expressed in at least one of three ways: verbal praise and thanksgiving to God; obedience and love to God; and giving back to God some of what He has blessed us with. I realize there are a host of godly ministries that would be more than glad to receive financial gifts from each of us. However, this article is couched in the needs of EMU missionaries. When missionaries work overtime, there is no increase in salary and benefits. For several decades we have taken up a **Christmas** offering for our Uruguayan missionaries, whose salaries are rather "bare-boned." This yearly offering is a tremendous help to their yearly budget needs. All gifts to the **Christmas Fund Offering** that are either designated to a particular Uruguayan missionary or non-designated will go to EMU's Uruguayan missionaries.

All designated gifts to our other missionaries as a **Christmas** offering will go 100% to that missionary. I know from experience that special financial help around the Christmas season is a help and encouragement. Thank you for participating in this project. And have a thankful-filled **Thanksgiving!** 🙌

---

Email: [office@emuinternational.org](mailto:office@emuinternational.org)  
Website: [www.emuinternational.org](http://www.emuinternational.org)  
Phone: (864) 268-9267

---